

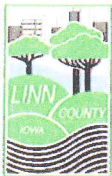
Resolution
Legion Arts Board of Directors
July 20, 2009

Resolved, that Legion Arts pursue the acquisition, rehabilitation and remodeling of CSPS and adjacent buildings in accordance with the plans developed by Tom Borrup and Creative Community Builders; Brad Lang, Solum Lang Architects; and Ryan Companies US.

Further, that Legion Arts enter into an agreement with R.G. Prucha to purchase CSPS Hall, the firehouse and the adjacent lot for the amount of \$575,000.

Further, that staff pursue I-Jobs and other funding opportunities to support the purchase and related developments.

Approved
July 20, 2009



Board of Supervisors
Linn County, Iowa

Lu Barron - District 1
Linda Langston - District 2
Ben Rogers - District 3
Brent Oleson - District 4
James M. Houser - District 5

Administrative Office Building
930 First Street Southwest
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404-2161

August 3, 2009

I-JOBS Board
ATTN: Joseph Jones
c/o Iowa Finance Authority
2015 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50312

Dear I-JOBS Board:

The Linn County Board of Supervisors is pleased to endorse the application of Legion Arts for I-JOBS funding. Legion Arts is seeking funding to assist in the acquisition of the historic CSPS Hall, along with the 1912 firehouse adjacent to it and the vacant lot directly behind it. These three properties will be renovated into a multi-tenant community cultural center, according full attention to sustainability, accessibility and historic preservation principles.

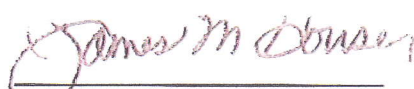
Legion Arts has a two-decade record of recognized achievement, leadership in Iowa's cultural community and fiscally responsible management. With its emphasis on innovation and diversity, Legion Arts makes a unique and critical contribution to the cultural vitality of this community and is dedicated to maintaining Cedar Rapids as a vibrant urban hometown. A renovated CSPS will be a model and a catalyst for continued flood recovery. Situated as it is in the heart of New Bohemia, this project will directly support dynamic neighborhoods and historic districts, contribute to a vital downtown and promote a sustainable and environmentally responsible community.

We strongly support Legion Arts' application and hope that you will seriously consider approval.

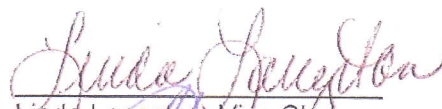
Sincerely,

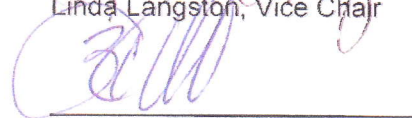
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


Lu Barron, Chair


James Houser


Ben Rogers


Linda Langston, Vice Chair


Brent Oleson

www.linncounty.org

lu.barron@linncounty.org • linda.langston@linncounty.org • ben.rogers@linncounty.org
brent.oleson@linncounty.org • james.houser@linncounty.org
phone 319.892.5000 • fax 319.892.5009



RESOLUTION NO. 0735-07-09

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/LINN COUNTY
COMMUNITY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE I-JOBS LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE
COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the I-JOBS Local Infrastructure Competitive Grant program was adopted by the State of Iowa Legislature to provide infrastructure investment funding to mitigate disaster recovery from the Flood of 2008, and to provide for employment while stimulating and promoting long term economic growth, and

WHEREAS, the I-JOBS program will provide \$118.5 million to be distributed in competitive grants available for reconstruction of local public buildings and flood control prevention in communities from devastation of the Flood of 2008 throughout the state of Iowa, and the Cedar Rapids/Linn County community will be submitting 23 (twenty-three) competitive grant applications for projects to the I-JOBS Grant Program, including:

Linn County – Administrative Office – Rebuild and Energy Efficiency
Linn County – Juvenile Law Center
City of Cedar Rapids – Reconstruction of Public Parking Ramps
City of Cedar Rapids – Parking Access Revenue Control System (PARCS)
City of Cedar Rapids – Downtown Parking Structure
City of Cedar Rapids – 3rd Street S.E. Streetscape Improvements
City of Cedar Rapids – Intermodal Transportation Facility (ITF)
City of Cedar Rapids – Anaerobic Biogas System Improvements
City of Cedar Rapids – Edgewood Road Reconstruction at Cedar River
City of Cedar Rapids – 6th Street SW Reconstruction
City of Cedar Rapids – Highway 100
City of Cedar Rapids – US Cellular Center Improvements & Events Center Construction
City of Cedar Rapids – Acquisition of Flood-Blighted Downtown Properties
City of Cedar Rapids – Façade of Improvement Incentive Program (F.A.C.E.)
City of Cedar Rapids – Multigenerational Community Life Center – PLAY
City of Cedar Rapids – Joint Communications Network
City of Cedar Rapids – Cedar Rapids Public Library Main Facility
City of Cedar Rapids – Demolition and remediation of the buildings located on the 1100 block of 3rd St S.E. (formerly Quality Chef)
Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce – Economic Commerce Center
African American Heritage Foundation of Iowa – African American Museum
Legion Arts – Restoration of CSPS Hall
Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa – JA World
Indian Creek Nature Center – From Flood to Flowers – Crafting a LEED Nature Center
Headquarters in the Beauty of Prairie Flowers

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA that the above noted projects are hereby endorsed, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA that submission of applications for the City of Cedar Rapids for the above noted projects are hereby authorized.

Passed this 22nd day of July, 2009.

Voting: Council member Podzimek moved the adoption of the resolution; seconded by Council member Wieneke. Adopted, Ayes, Council members Fagan, Gulick, McGrane, Podzimek, Shey, Shields, Vernon, Wieneke and Mayor Halloran.

Kay Halloran, Mayor

Attest:

Ann Ollinger, City Clerk

Cedar Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

August 3, 2009

I-JOBS review committee

Dear Friends:

The Cedar Rapids Area Convention and Visitors Bureau enthusiastically supports the renovation of the historic CSPA Hall in the heart of the Czech Village/New Bohemia Cultural District.

Legion Arts, located in the CSPA Hall, has been a keystone in our cultural community for two decades. We were proud to collaborate with Legion Arts to bring the highly acclaimed National Performance Network Conference to Cedar Rapids in 2006. Less than three months after the flood of 2008, Legion Arts was presenting programming to help the New Bohemia neighborhood regain momentum. It will continue to do so and will do an even better job with an expanded facility.

The project to renovate and expand the CSPA Hall and the historic firehouse adjacent to it will serve as a catalyst to an historic district and serve as a model for cultural rejuvenation.

It will make Cedar Rapids a vibrant, authentic and interesting destination for travelers from all over the world.

Sincerely,



Timothy P. Boyle

President/Cedar Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

119 First Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401-1105
319-398-5009
Fax 319-398-5089
www.cedar-rapids.com

*Czech Village/New Bohemia Urban Main Street District
Cedar Rapids, Iowa*

July 31, 2009

RE: Legion Arts I-Jobs Application

To Whom It May Concern:

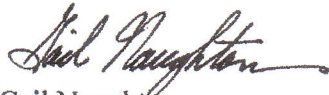
On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Czech Village/New Bohemia Urban Main Street District, I would like to register our support for the Legion Arts I-Jobs application for funding. This project is prominently located in our new Main Street district, which is in the midst of major rebuilding following the flood of 2008.

This historic property has been returned to use on its upper floors, but the main floor and the adjacent historic fire station await investment to return to contributing to the neighborhood. The successful completion of this project would be a major revitalization and stimulus for the district, creating jobs and bringing artists and the interested public to the district. This is crucial to returning to pre-flood activity and becoming even stronger and more viable in the future.

A new Urban Main Street district has been formed to promote historic preservation and economic revitalization of the area. The professional training and advising provided by Main Street is one tool that will be implemented in a multi-layered program of post-flood recovery for this critical local heritage area. The long-term goals are to support local businesses and attract new investment. This I-Jobs project fulfills both of those goals by retaining a thriving business, and bringing investment through the artists who will reside in the building and the construction project that will restore it.

We hope that you will give this proposal your full support.

Yours truly,



Gail Naughton
President of the Board of Directors
Czech Village/New Bohemia Urban Main Street District

SOUTHSIDE INVESTMENT BOARD

Oakhill Jackson • New Bohemia

7/30/09

Iowa Department of Economic Development
Iowa Finance Authority
2015 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50312
Iowa I-Jobs Board

Dear Members of the Board:

The Southside Investment Board is a group of business owners, neighborhood residents and concerned citizens in the Oakhill Jackson/New Bohemia section of Cedar Rapids. Our members are committed to maintaining and enhancing the commercial, cultural, residential and industrial aspects of this neighborhood.

While this neighborhood was significantly damaged by the flood of 08, today it is poised to begin renewal efforts and to add to the revitalization of our city.

Paramount to any community revitalization effort in our neighborhood is the need renovate the CSPA Hall.

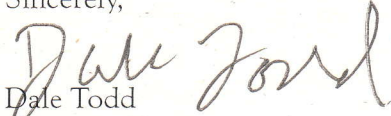
For twenty years Legion Arts has brought world renowned arts and cultural entertainment to Eastern Iowa and by serving as the "anchor" for the New Bohemia cultural and entertainment district it has led the charge for neighborhood revitalization.

By introducing the idea of an arts district to Cedar Rapids, supporting the reuse of industrial space and affordable housing for the area, Legion Arts has proved the importance of arts and culture to our city's economic vitality.

Currently government support is focused on rebuilding this area and the rehabilitation of this flood damaged property is crucial to the future of this recently designated "Main Street District."

Located one block away from downtown, the renovation of Legion Arts is critical not just our neighborhood but also to downtown. This is why members of the Southside Investment Board would urge you to support the I-Jobs request for Legion Arts.

Sincerely,



Dale Todd
President
Southside Investment Board
1821 Grande Avenue SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

Dale Todd, *President* • Scott Jamieson, *Vice President* • Fred Timko, *Treasurer* • Michael Richards, *Secretary*
Mel Andringa • Lijun Chadima • Chuck Hammond • Sarah Ordover • Bob Rush • Peggy Whitworth • Ed Young

1821 GRANDE AVENUE SOUTHEAST, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52403 • 319.366.8158



NATIONAL
CZECH &
SLOVAK
MUSEUM &
LIBRARY

30 SIXTEENTH AVENUE SW
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA USA 52404-5904
PHONE: 319-362-8500 FAX: 319-363-2209
WWW.NCSML.ORG

July 31, 2009

RE: Legion Arts I-Jobs Application

To Whom It May Concern:

The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library gives its wholehearted support to the Legion Arts project to purchase, restore and repurpose the historic CSPS building and fire house in the New Bohemia area of Cedar Rapids.

The CSPS hall was originally built by Cedar Rapids Czechs as a lodge hall for a fraternal benefit society. Many arts and entertainment performances were held there and it was the social center for activities of this population from two counties for decades. The original stage is still in use today by Legion Arts much as it has been since the building was built.

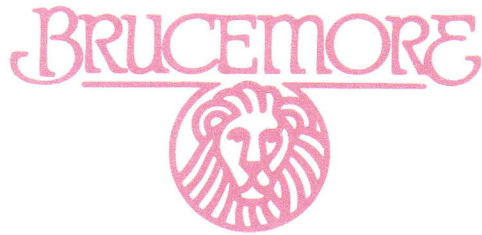
The vision of Legion Arts for the renovation of the building will create jobs, foster the growth of the arts and artists in the New Bohemia area and Cedar Rapids and provide a new life and exciting future for one of the most architecturally prominent buildings in the area. It will return a flood-damaged property to full and expanded use that is supportive to the State of Iowa designated arts and entertainment district in which it is located.

For the museum, this will provide a place of interest for visitors to the NCSML from across Iowa and around the country, adding markedly to their visitor experience. Legion Arts' eclectic international programming regularly includes performers from the Czech Republic and Slovakia and we partner often on programs of mutual interest to our members.

Legion Arts has a proven track record of sound fiscal management and innovative programming with a dedicated following. This project is the ideal I-Jobs project and I hope will garner your full support.

Sincerely,

Gail Naughton
President/CEO



July 30, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Brucemore is Iowa's only National Trust Historic Site, serving a dual mission as house museum and community cultural center since 1981. As part of our annual programming, we host music, theatre, and dance events for nearly 35,000 patrons. Among our offerings are the annual Classics at Brucemore outdoor theatre, Cabaret in the Courtyard, Bluesmore Festival, the Brucemore Garden and Art Show, and many family programs. Additionally, we have partnered with the Joffrey Ballet, Hancher Auditorium, Legion Arts, the Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra, Concert Chorale, Theatre Cedar Rapids, and many others to present extraordinary performing arts opportunities for the region.

One of the treasured arts organizations in Eastern Iowa is Legion Arts, housed in the historic CSPS Building in Cedar Rapids. For years, Legion Arts has provided outstanding music and arts programming to a tremendously diverse population, from partnerships with the schools to special projects with constituents from all backgrounds. But Legion Arts is more than a presenting organization. They encourage, foster, and incubate innovative ideas that extend their mission well beyond that of a conventional arts organization. By offering fair compensation for working artists, performance and exhibition opportunities for the benefit of the entire community, and a community-based facility that is inclusive for all sorts of diverse activities, Legion Arts has demonstrated its commitment to strengthening this community and region. It is especially rewarding to see the organization prepare for an even greater role in their neighborhood, the community, and the region. As they complete their plans for facility and programmatic expansion, they have engaged their constituents to prioritize and define the needs. Since the founders and Board recognize the historic nature of the CSPS building and the Landmark status of the neighborhood, they have positioned the organization to serve as leaders in the preservation and neighborhood revitalization movements. The dedication, determination, and history of success of Legion Arts absolutely qualify them for consideration in the I-Jobs program.

Legion Arts is one of the area's premier performing and visual arts groups, and on behalf of Brucemore and the community, I heartily endorse their request for support. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

James F. Kern, Executive Director
Brucemore, Inc.
2160 Linden Dr. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-362-7375
jim@brucemore.org



SCHWARTZKOPF

Fine Woodworking

I-JOBS Review Panel

7/30/2009

Dear Friends,

Legion Arts gave grants to local artists (I was one of them) after the 2008 flood. These grants helped the recovery process, and allowed local artists stay in business while rebuilding our New Bohemia studios.

Legion Arts also curated 'Matters Arising' at CSPA, an exhibition of art by artists from Eastern Iowa and the Gulf Coast, who were impacted by natural disasters. This gave me an opportunity to display new work and to demonstrate to the public that I was back in action.

Legion Arts is the glue that holds artists together in New Bohemia. Please help preserve and expand their presence in the neighborhood.

Thanks,

John Schwartzkopf
john@johnsawdust.com